GC

GC(41)/OR.9
22 October 1997
GENERAL Distr.

International Atomic Energy Agency
GENERAL CONFERENCE

Original: ENGLISH

FORTY-FIRST (1997) REGULAR SESSION

RECORD OF THE NINTH PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna
on Friday, 3 October 1997, at 10.15 a.m.

President: Mr. NIEWODNICZAŃSKI (Poland)

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[*] GC(41)/28.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(41)/INF/17/Rev.2.
97-04532 (XXXI)

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Abbreviations used in this record

Agreed Framework	Agreed Framework between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

ORAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Mr. STRATFORD (United States of America), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, presenting the Committee's report on agenda items 10-22, said that the Committee had had very fruitful and constructive discussions and that all the recommendations being made had been adopted by consensus.

2. Under item 10, "The Agency's accounts for 1996", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution in document GC(41)/9.

3. Under item 11, "The Agency's budget for 1998", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt draft resolutions A, B and C in Annex I to document GC(41)/10.

4. Under item 12, "Scale of assessment of Members' contributions towards the Regular Budget", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(41)/15.

5. Under item 13, "Measures to strengthen international co-operation in nuclear, radiation and waste safety", the Committee recommended that the Conference take note of the information contained in documents GC(41)/INF/5 and Add.1, GC(41)/INF/6, GC(41)/INF/8 and Corr.1, GC(41)/INF/13 and GC(41)/14 and adopt the three draft resolutions contained in documents GC(41)/31 on "The Convention on Nuclear Safety", GC(41)/42 on "The Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management", and GC(41)/45 on "Safety of Transport of Radioactive Materials".

6. Under item 14, "Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation activities", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/43.

7. Under item 15, "Plan for producing potable water economically", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/32.

8. Under item 16, "Extensive use of isotope hydrology for water resources management", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/37.

9. Under item 17, "Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/44.

10. Under item 18, "Measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/38.

11. Under item 19, "Personnel questions", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the two draft resolutions in documents GC(41)/39 relating to "Staffing of the Agency's Secretariat" and GC(41)/40 relating to "Women in the Secretariat".

12. Under item 20, "Article VI of the Statute", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/46.

13. Under item 21, "Co-operation agreements with intergovernmental organizations", the Committee recommended that the Conference approve the draft co-operation agreement between the IAEA and the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials contained in document GC(41)/26.

14. Under item 22, "International Initiative for Chernobyl Sarcophagus", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/36.

15. On behalf of the two Vice-Chairmen of the Committee of the Whole and on his own behalf, he thanked the Conference for the confidence it had placed in them and also thanked all those who had taken part in the deliberations of the Committee for their co-operation.

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to take one by one the items which had been considered by the Committee of the Whole.

The Agency's accounts for 1996 (agenda item 10)

17. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/9 was adopted.

The Agency's budget for 1998 (agenda item 11)

18. Draft resolutions A, B and C in Annex I to document GC(41)/10 were adopted.

Scale of assessment of Members' contributions towards the Regular Budget (agenda item 12)

19. The draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(41)/15 and the scale of assessment contained in the Annex to that document were adopted.

Measures to strengthen international co-operation in nuclear, radiation and waste safety (agenda item 13)

(a) Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management

(b) Measures to resolve international radioactive waste management issues: Establishing predisposal waste demonstration centres

20. The PRESIDENT assumed that the Conference wished to take note of the information contained in documents GC(41)/INF/5 and Add.1, GC(41)/INF/6, GC(41)/INF/8 and Corr.1, GC(41)/INF/13 and GC(41)/14 and adopt the draft resolutions contained in documents GC(41)/31, 42 and 45.

21. It was so decided.

Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation activities (agenda item 14)

22. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/43 was adopted.

Plan for producing potable water economically (agenda item 15)

23. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/32 was adopted.

Extensive use of isotope hydrology for water resources management (agenda item 16)

24. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/37 was adopted.

Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards systems (agenda item 17)

25. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/44 was adopted.

Measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources (agenda item 18)

26. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/38 was adopted.

Personnel questions (agenda item 19)

(a) Staffing of the Agency's Secretariat

(b) Women in the Secretariat

27. The draft resolutions in documents GC(41)/39 and 40 were adopted.

Article VI of the Statute (agenda item 20)

28. The draft resolution in document GC(41)/46 was adopted.

29. The PRESIDENT said that following the extensive consultations, there was agreement that he should read out the following statement:

> "The General Conference at its fortieth session took note of the Report by the Director General on Composition of Regional Groups under the agenda item "Amendment of Article VI of the Statute" as was contained in the Attachment to document GC(40)/11. It reiterated the principle of the sovereign equality of all Member States of the Agency, as provided for in Article IV.C of the Statute. It affirmed that this principle requires that each Member State of the Agency be within one of the areas listed in Article VI.A.1 of the Statute.
>
> "Recalling the draft resolution contained in document GC(39)/COM.5/10 dated 19 September 1995 and resolution GC(39)/RES/22 dated 22 September 1995, the Conference requests that the Chairman of the Board of Governors continue to consult with Member States not yet listed in a regional area as well as with other Member States, including representatives of the regional areas, and that he report for consideration of the forty-second session of the General Conference specific proposals to include each Member State within the appropriate area at the time of the Conference in September 1998."

30. The President's statement was accepted.

31. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic) stressed that the inclusion of any country in a regional group had to be accepted by the other countries in that group. While any country had the right to belong to a regional group, geographical proximity was not the only criterion governing membership of such a group, since harmonious relations among the group's members were essential for fruitful co-operation. Such issues should be settled by consultations and he did not consider it possible to set a deadline for the completion of the process in view of all the factors involved. Finally, he expressed surprise at the inclusion in the President's statement of a reference to document GC(39)/COM.5/10, which was a draft resolution that had not been adopted when it had been submitted in 1995.

32. Mr. AYATOLLAHI (Islamic Republic of Iran), having expressed appreciation for the work of the Committee of the Whole and the contact group which had worked on the issue in great detail, said that his delegation's acceptance as a whole of the package relating to the amendment of Article VI, together with the Presidential statement, did not indicate its full satisfaction. The Presidential statement had referred to a draft resolution in document GC(39)/COM.5/10 which had not been adopted and had therefore no legal force. However, in a spirit of co-operation and consensus, his delegation accepted it as part of the Presidential statement.

Co-operation agreements with intergovernmental organizations (agenda item 21)

33. The PRESIDENT took it that the Conference wished to approve the draft co-operation agreement between the IAEA and the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials contained in document GC(41)/26.

34. It was so decided.

International Initiative for Chernobyl Sarcophagus (agenda item 22)

35. The draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/36 was adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR
(GC(41)/7)

36. The PRESIDENT said that the current term of office of the External Auditor, who was the Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom, would end when he had finished auditing the Agency's accounts for 1997; the Conference therefore needed to make an appointment at its current session to provide for the auditing of the accounts for 1998 and 1999.

37. He took it that, in line with the recommendation by the Board of Governors contained in document GC(41)/7, the General Conference wished to appoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom as the External Auditor to audit the Agency's accounts for 1998 and 1999.

38. It was so decided.

39. The PRESIDENT conveyed to the External Auditor and his staff the Agency's appreciation for the work they had done in auditing the Agency's accounts so far and for the many useful suggestions made by them over the past two years.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AGENCY AND THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR THE APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
(GC(41)/17, GC(41)/33 and Add.1-3)

40. The PRESIDENT recalled that the item had been included in the agenda pursuant to resolution GC(40)/RES/4, which had been adopted by the General Conference in 1996.

41. Since then, the Director General had periodically reported to the Board on the implementation of safeguards in the DPRK and had submitted to the Conference document GC(41)/17, which summarized the developments over the past year. The Conference also had before it a draft resolution on the subject (GC(41)/33 and Add.1-3).

42. Mr. MACKINNON (Canada), introducing the draft resolution, said that the Director General's report in document GC(41)/17 made it clear that the DPRK was still not complying with its obligations under its safeguards agreement with the Agency. That fact continued to cause considerable concern to the international community, particularly bearing in mind the fundamental difference of view between the Agency and the DPRK regarding the current status of the safeguards agreement and taking into account the lack of progress in the technical discussions between the Agency and the DPRK.

43. The draft resolution registered the sponsors' concern and called on the DPRK to comply fully with its safeguards agreement with the Agency.

44. Mr. Seung-Kon LEE (Republic of Korea) said that the DPRK nuclear issue had been on the Agency's agenda for five years. In 1996, the General Conference had adopted, with overwhelming support, a resolution expressing concern over the DPRK's continuing non-compliance with its safeguards agreement and urging that country to co-operate fully with the Agency. Since then, the Secretariat had tried to resolve that long-standing issue. However, as indicated in the Director General's report, no solution was yet in sight. His country was very disappointed that no progress had been made on most of the fundamental issues, including measures to preserve information about past history, in the two rounds of technical discussions with the DPRK held during the past year.

45. The DPRK contended that it was not bound by its safeguards agreement in view of its special status and insisted that the nuclear issue could be resolved only through the Agreed Framework. However, the Agreed Framework was not a substitute for the safeguards agreement, which remained binding and in force. Even under the Agreed Framework, key components of light water reactors would be delivered to the DPRK only after verification by the Agency of its past history. Considerable efforts were being made to implement the Agreed Framework, and the DPRK should make corresponding efforts to implement its safeguards agreement. It should stop resorting to delaying tactics.

46. Given that the DPRK continued to defy the General Conference, he felt that the international community should take a firm stance against it. The DPRK's persistent non-compliance with its safeguards agreement was a serious challenge to the Agency's safeguards system as a whole. If the Agency kept silent, its authority as the international organization responsible for verifying non-proliferation commitments would eventually be undermined. At the very least, the General Conference should point out that the DPRK was still not complying with its safeguards agreement and should call upon it once again to do so.

47. Mr. SNYDER (United States of America) said that his Government strongly supported the efforts of the Director General and of the Secretariat to implement safeguards fully in the DPRK and to monitor the freeze on the DPRK's nuclear facilities pursuant to the Agreed Framework. For almost three years, the Agreed Framework had proved to be an important mechanism for ensuring peace and security on the Korean Peninsula. Nuclear facilities in the DPRK had been frozen since 1994, and Agency inspectors had maintained a continuous presence in the DPRK, monitoring that freeze. Under the Agency's supervision, experts from the United States and the DPRK had successfully canned and safely stored approximately 90% of the DPRK's spent nuclear fuel. Following the ground-breaking ceremony for the LWR project on 19 August 1997, the United States expected the DPRK to agree to formal talks with the Agency. For its part, the United States remained fully committed to the Agreed Framework and would continue to fulfil its obligations under it. It expected the same from the DPRK.

48. The United States was deeply concerned about Agency reports on the continued lack of co-operation by the DPRK with freeze-monitoring activities and the absence of tangible steps by the DPRK to preserve information related to its past nuclear activities. It was disappointed that the three rounds of technical discussions held in 1996 and the meeting in January 1997 on outstanding safeguards issues had all failed to make significant progress. Under the terms of the Agreed Framework, before key reactor components were delivered, the DPRK had to take all steps deemed necessary by the Agency to verify the accuracy and completeness of its initial report on all nuclear materials in the DPRK. Although it would

be several years before such components were delivered, that did not mean that nothing could or should be done by the two sides now. While considerable progress had been made on other aspects of implementing the Agreed Framework, little progress had been made in talks between the Agency and the DPRK on the establishment of procedures and understandings necessary for preserving history, which was essential to enable the Agency to verify DPRK's initial report smoothly and expeditiously when the proper time came.

49. Mr. IKEDA (Japan), stressing that the safeguards agreement with the DPRK remained in force and binding, commended the Agency's continued efforts to implement safeguards measures and to monitor the freeze in the DPRK as requested by the Security Council. In view of the absence of progress and as outstanding issues still had to be resolved, urgent measures needed to be taken to preserve the information required to verify the correctness and completeness of the DPRK's initial declaration under the safeguards agreement. Japan therefore called upon the DPRK to co-operate fully in order to facilitate the Agency's efforts and renewed its request for the Agency to continue its efforts to resolve all outstanding issues and to keep the Board informed of future developments.

50. Mr. HUANG Qitao (China) requested a vote by show of hands on the draft resolution.

51. There were 77 votes in favour and none against, with 10 abstentions. The draft resolution was adopted.

52. Mr. HUANG Qitao (China) said his delegation had abstained during the voting because it believed in negotiation and co-operation and did not think that a draft resolution was an appropriate mechanism for seeking a solution to the problem. Furthermore, his delegation could not agree to some parts of the draft resolution.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO IRAQ
(GC(41)/20 and 35)

53. The PRESIDENT noted that, pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution GC(40)/RES/21, the Director General had submitted a report, contained in

document GC(41)/20, on his efforts to implement Security Council resolutions 687, 707 and 715 relating to Iraq. The matter had been considered by the Board of Governors in June 1997 on the basis of the Director General's report. The Conference had before it, in document GC(41)/35, a draft resolution submitted by a number of Member States.

54. Mr. SANTER (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union and the other sponsors of the draft resolution, said that the preambular paragraphs outlined some important developments over the past year. Notwithstanding the unconditional reaffirmation by the Iraqi Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq's obligations under the NPT and commitment to full compliance with its safeguards agreement with the Agency and the progress made with the Action Team's review of Iraq's Full, Final and Complete Declaration and with respect to the content and accuracy of Iraq's six-monthly declarations under the Ongoing Monitoring and Verification Plan, there were also some worrying developments: Iraq had obstructed aircraft used by the Agency and failed to provide the Action Team with all the information it had requested.

55. The operative paragraphs indicated the General Conference's appreciation of and support for the efforts of the Director General and his Action Team to fulfil their mandate under the relevant Security Council resolutions and indicated in clear terms what was required of Iraq: full co-operation and the handing over of all currently undisclosed nuclear-weapons related information, materials and equipment. The sponsors believed that the draft resolution was a balanced reflection of recent events and a clear indication of the world community's expectations and aspirations for the coming months.

56. Mr. FARIS HUSSAIN (Iraq) said his delegation opposed the draft resolution in document GC(41)/35 because it did not reflect the actual course of events since September 1996. If one looked carefully at the previous year's resolution (GC(40)/RES/21), one could see that Iraq had fully implemented it, even though it had rejected the text because it had not reflected the actual circumstances at that time.

57. Preambular paragraph (h) was not correct, since the requests made by the Action Team had in fact been met. Those requests had been submitted to the Iraqi delegation on

26 September 1997, and within five days, on 1 October 1997, the details requested had been provided.

58. Referring to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, he said seven years had elapsed since the Agency's teams had begun their verification activities of Iraq's former nuclear programme. The Agency was fully acquainted with all aspects of that programme, but had now turned its attention to secondary issues of slight importance in an attempt to postpone its final decision.

59. With regard to paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, he stressed that Iraq had fully and frankly co-operated with the Action Team. There was no reason for Iraq to continue to hold back information or decline to co-operate with the Action Team. He therefore called on the General Conference to ask the Agency's Action Team to clarify the areas in which Iraq was not co-operating with it and to explain their relevance in the context of the relevant Security Council resolution.

60. With regard to paragraph 6, there was no remaining equipment, material or information related to Iraq's former nuclear programme that had not been handed over or disclosed to the Agency. The Action Team had asked the Iraqi side to investigate the remains of destroyed materials and the Iraqi side had made available the required materials.

61. The draft resolution was a reflection of the report contained in document GC(41)/20 and of the Director General's statement to the General Conference. The report had omitted certain extremely important facts such as Iraq's constructive co-operation with the Agency and the lack of any trace of prohibited materials or activities in Iraq. It had also failed to mention the extent to which the Agency had fulfilled its mandate with respect to Iraq. He could only conclude that the objective was to maintain the status quo despite all efforts, progress, openness and co-operation on the part of Iraq. He urged the Conference not to adopt what was a biased and unfair draft resolution prepared under the influence of well-known political pressures and designed to prolong the sanctions regime and the starvation of the people of Iraq.

62. He proposed four amendments to the draft resolution. Firstly, to add the words "in February and July 1997" at the end of preambular paragraph (e). Secondly, to amend the words "that Iraq has still not provided" in preambular paragraph (h) to read "that Iraq may still not have provided". Thirdly, to add the following phrase to operative paragraph 1: "with a view to the finalization of activities under resolutions 687 and 707 and after such finalization to discharge their responsibility based on the monitoring mechanism under resolution 1051". Lastly, he proposed that operative paragraph 5 be deleted.

63. Mr. SANTER (Luxembourg) requested a suspension of the meeting to consider the amendments proposed by Iraq.

64. It was so agreed.

The meeting was suspended at 11.30 a.m. and resumed at 11.55 a.m.

65. Mr. SANTER (Luxembourg) said that the amendments proposed by Iraq were unacceptable: preambular paragraph (e) dealt with a matter of principle - Iraq had itself admitted to having caused obstruction on two occasions and it was well known that obstruction had occurred on other occasions; the current text of preambular paragraph (h) reflected the facts of the matter and could not be changed; with regard to operative paragraph 1, the extent to which the Agency could be said to have completed the work prescribed by the Security Council was a matter for the latter and only the latter to determine; lastly, the proposed deletion of paragraph 5 was unacceptable since that paragraph was central to the Security Council's requirements.

66. Mr. TWAL (Jordan) said that, as a matter of principle, Jordan had always urged Iraq to implement the Security Council resolutions and to collaborate with the parties concerned. He understood that the purpose of the draft resolution before the Conference was to compel Iraq to comply fully with those resolutions. It would therefore be helpful if details were given of all cases in which Iraq had failed to co-operate. For example, if it had obstructed flights by the inspection teams, specific details of the circumstances should be provided. If more materials and information were necessary, their exact nature should

also be specified. He therefore urged the Conference to give sympathetic consideration to the amendments proposed by Iraq.

67. The PRESIDENT said that, pursuant to Rule 76 of the Rules of Procedures, the Conference had to vote on each of the four amendments proposed by Iraq before voting on the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/35. He accordingly asked those present to vote by a show of hands on Iraq's first proposed amendment concerning the wording of preambular paragraph (e).

68. There was 1 vote in favour and 63 against, with 16 abstentions. The proposal was rejected.

69. The PRESIDENT then asked those present to vote on the second proposed amendment concerning the wording of preambular paragraph (h).

70. There was 1 vote in favour and 64 against, with 16 abstentions. The proposal was rejected.

71. The PRESIDENT next invited those present to vote on the third proposed amendment concerning the wording of operative paragraph 1.

72. There was 1 vote in favour and 65 against, with 15 abstentions. The proposal was rejected.

73. The PRESIDENT lastly invited those present to vote on the fourth proposed amendment, namely that operative paragraph 5 be deleted.

74. There was no vote in favour and 71 against, with 10 abstentions. The proposal was rejected.

75. The PRESIDENT then asked whether the Conference was prepared to adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/35 without a vote.

76. Mr. FARIS HUSSAIN (Iraq), expressing regret that the proposed amendments had been rejected, proposed that the whole draft resolution be put to the vote by a show of hands.

77. Mr. SANTER (Luxembourg) requested a roll-call vote.

78. The PRESIDENT invited the General Conference to proceed to a roll-call vote on the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/35, as requested by the delegation of Luxembourg.

79. Albania, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

80. The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen.

Abstaining: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Viet Nam.

81. The draft resolution was adopted by 75 votes to zero, with 15 abstentions.

82. Mr. TWAL (Jordan) said that although his country supported a number of points contained in the draft resolution, it had abstained in the roll-call vote on humanitarian grounds as it could not endorse a resolution which extended the application of the sanctions and would ultimately lead to greater suffering for the people of Iraq, particularly its children.

83. Mr. FARIS HUSSAIN (Iraq) said that his delegation regretted the adoption of the draft resolution, which did not accurately reflect the situation as far as Iraq's

co-operation with the Agency was concerned, and which would extend the embargo that had been imposed on Iraq for seven years. Furthermore, it would lead to the loss of even more lives; that humanitarian responsibility was one which the General Conference would have to bear.

APPLICATION OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST
(GC(41)/16, 34 and 47)

84. The PRESIDENT said that he understood that extensive consultations were still in progress and suggested that consideration of the item be deferred to the afternoon meeting.

85. It was so agreed.

EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS
(GC(41)/29 and 41)

86. The PRESIDENT said that the General Committee had met to examine the credentials of all delegates, as provided for in Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure. The Committee's report was contained in document GC(41)/41. The Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 7 of the report. Since the Committee's meeting, credentials in proper form had been received by the Director General in respect of the delegates of Lebanon, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

87. Mr. KAREM (Egypt) said that Egypt's acceptance of Israel's credentials did not imply its acceptance of Israel's illegal annexation of territories, particularly the Golan Heights and Jerusalem. In Egypt's view, the State of Israel was limited by the boundaries of 5 June 1967 and the frontiers specified in the peace agreements with Egypt and Jordan.

88. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic), speaking on behalf of the delegations of the Arab States participating in the Conference, read out the statement made by those delegations concerning their reservations about the credentials submitted by the Israeli delegation reproduced in document GC(41)/29.

89. Mr. AYATOLLAHI (Islamic Republic of Iran), having endorsed the statement made by the previous speaker, reiterated the fact that his country's acceptance of the General Committee's report in no way implied its recognition of the Israeli régime.

90. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference was prepared to adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/41.

91. It was so decided.

ELECTIONS TO THE AGENCY'S STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE

92. The PRESIDENT recalled that the General Conference was represented on the Agency's Staff Pension Committee by two members - Mr. Pecsteen of Belgium and Mr. Servigon of the Philippines - and two alternates - Mr. Arrouchi of Morocco and Mr. Herrera Andrade of Mexico.

93. Since Mr. Servigon had left Vienna and was no longer available to serve on the Committee, he proposed that Mr. Arrouchi of Morocco be elected as a member, and Mr. Raja Adnan of Malaysia be elected as an alternate member. He added that those names had been the subject of informal consultations.

94. Mr. Arrouchi was elected as a member and Mr. Raja Adnan was elected as an alternate member to represent the General Conference on the Agency's Staff Pension Committee.

REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGED TO THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FUND FOR 1998
(GC(41)/27/Rev.4)

95. The PRESIDENT, drawing attention to document GC(41)/27/Rev.4, said that by 7 p.m. on 2 October 1997, the contributions pledged by Member States to the Technical Co-operation Fund for 1998 had reached a total of US $9 285 880. Since then, $100 000 had been pledged by Greece and $7150 had been pledged by Uganda, bringing the total amount pledged to $9 393 030, which represented only 13% of the target.

96. He urged those delegations that had not yet done so to make their 1998 pledges and to pay their contributions in full at the earliest opportunity so that the Secretariat could submit the 1998 programme to the forthcoming Technical Assistance and Co-operation Committee meeting based upon reasonably assured resources and subsequently implement the approved programme without hindrance or uncertainty.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.